

# THE YOUNG WORKER

THE YOUNG WORKER  
Stands For  
Unionizing the Youth!  
Equal Pay for Equal Work for  
Young and Old!  
A 6-Hour Day, 5-Day Week for  
Young Workers!  
Abolition of Child Labor!  
A Fight Against Capitalist  
Militarism!  
A Fight Against the Boss Class!  
The Workers' Republic!

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

Published twice a month.

Washington Blvd. Subscription price \$1.00 per year. The Young Workers League of America, publishers. "Entered as second-class matter Sept. 17, 1922, at the postoffice at Chicago, Ill., under the Act of March 3, 1879."

VOL. III. No. 16.

CHICAGO, ILL., AUGUST 15, 1924

PRICE 5 CENTS

## MAKE WAR DAY PLANS!

BEHIND THE MOBILIZATION DAY DRIVE



## CAPITALISTS AND BANKERS BACK MOBILIZATION DAY AS WAR STEP

By HARRY GANNES

WAR is exactly right, says Judge Gary of the United States Steel Corporation. That is what he said about the last war. He sold plenty of war munitions. That is what he thinks about war preparations—it is exactly right. Steel production is down. Another war would knock it sky-high.

War is 100 per cent American, declared Frank Vanderlip, of the American International Corporation, and former president of the National City Bank. The big banks finance the big war supply corporations. War means intensive business; big armaments mean huge profits.

Wall Street wants war. When the Wall Street bears and bulls smell war in the air they go raving mad. Just before America entered the last war, some 300 brokers sang "The Star Spangled Banner!"

The moment war opens the big bankers begin to loan the government money; they begin to loan money to the steel corporations, the ship building concerns, and the entire host of munition factories. The Du Pont de Nemours Company, the largest ammunition manufacturers, do everything possible to bring on war.

Bribing the Press.

Newspapers are bribed to cry for war, speakers are bought to talk for war, preachers indirectly are subsidized to shriek for war—all in the interest and behalf of the munition Americans. The history of American war making is the history of the big munition factories in harmony with the American imperialists "creating" business.

The stock exchange wants war. War raises industrial, railroad and other securities. Bethlehem steel rose 30 points when war was declared in 1917. Stocks are down now, way down. The big industrialists crave a war to see the tickers tell the tale of high stocks, of big profits.

Mobilization Day First Step. Mobilization day, September 12, is looked to as the coming of Christ by the war-mongers. September 12 means actual preparation for war. Guns will be hauled about, men will be dressed in uniforms, flags will be floated, projectiles will be shot, rifles put to use. Vast expenditure of money for war supplies will be made.

The big corporations that supply the flags, the bullets, the projectiles, the guns, the cannons will have more business. To them it will be a taste of that monstrous feast that war brings them.

It is these bankers and industrialists, the munition makers, that are behind the monster of American capitalism. Behind the bankers stand the steel interests. The banks and the steel companies have interests that are intertwined like the nerves in a living body. The soothing of one part pleases the entire system. Profits of war make the nerves of capitalism glow.

Cry for Greater Army. Not content with getting \$150,000,000 to build ships and \$330,000,000 for army expenditures, most of which finds its way into the pockets of the bankers, and their subsidiary steel and munition corporations, the pro-war agitators call for a larger army and a larger navy. September 12 will be the jumping off place of a continued campaign for more expenditures for war supplies.

With the United States government spending eighty-three cents of every dollar received in taxes for war purposes, with the army and navy increasing in size, it seems as if the bankers and munition manufacturers have the upper hand. Do they control the United States treasury outright? Do they say whether money shall be spent for the goods they make and then pocket that money? Are they the ones who decree that mobilization days shall be held? All available facts point to an emphatic YES as an answer to all these questions.

Navy League and War. Who controls the Navy League, with headquarters in Washington opposite the War Department and with its manipulative fingers right at the very executive buttons of that department? Congressman Clyde Tavenner showed that the leaders of the league were leading munition manufacturers. They want war and they make plans to get it. It is good business to spend millions in buying up the government when there are billions of profits in the offing.

The National Security League is another military organization that seeks

## War Against War! Is Communist Call

ON September 12, the first big step of the American imperialists towards the preparation of this country's youth for war will be taken.

On September 7, the revolutionary youth of America will demonstrate its reply to capitalist exploitation and capitalist war.

September 12 is Mobilization Day of American Imperialism, the culmination of months of propaganda in the press school and church for preparedness.

September 7 is International Youth Day, the culmination of a year of communist activity of the Young Workers League of America.

The war-mongers of America, the munitions manufacturers, the steel trust, the industrialists and financiers, are plotting for the control of the world. The struggle for this control is a struggle which leads to war. Millions are destroyed in war time, but millions of profit are made by the victor. The capitalists of the United States intend to be victors in the next war and they demand the biggest army, the most powerful navy, the largest air fleet, the hugest reserve army at home.

The eyes of capital in America rove over the four corners of the earth. They already control the islands of the Caribbean. They want Mexico, and the entire South American continent. They are preparing to take over political and economic control of the Pacific ocean, of China, as they have already done in the Philippines. American loans are the order of the day in Hungary, France and Germany. The United States sends its leading officials and bankers to the London Conference of the Allies and there they hold the whip hand.

Suppose rebellion against American financial and political rulership should arise inside a nation? Suppose attempts are made to oust America from control in favor of France or England or Japan? Will the United States sit by idly? Of course not! The next war will break out!

It is for this war that the imperialists of this country are rallying the workers of America to Mobilization Day. Not all the protests of the pacifists, not all the excuses of President Coolidge, not all the apologies of the War Department will hide the fact that this huge maneuver is intended to be the first step towards war—the measuring of power, strength, available forces.

Remember the last war! Remember the preparedness drive, remember that it was also said to be "a peace move"! Remember how the workers were dragged into the war by their hair, how they were sent to murder other young workers with whom they had no quarrel, who had no quarrel with them, but who all fought for the profits and investments of their nation's bosses.

What are the workers of this country going to do about Mobilization Day this year? In what manner are they going to raise their voice in protest, in what manner will they show their determined opposition to the approaching holocaust which threatens their lives?

The international day of the communist youth offers an opportunity to the young and old workers to unite against war. International Youth Day will be celebrated this year on September 7. Under the international leadership of the Young Communist International and its American section, the Young Workers League, the young workers will rally to the standards of Communism to protest against capitalist exploitation and imperialism.

Against the coming imperialist war we raise the battle-cry of the Young Communist International in the days when the battlefields of Europe were reddened with the blood of the workers of the world:

WAR AGAINST WAR!  
Against imperialist war we call for the war of the classes, the war of the workers against their exploiters!

Against the imperialist Mobilization Day we offer the internationalist, communist International Youth Day!

Rally to the red standards of communism!  
Boycott the drive of American imperialist towards war!  
WAR AGAINST WAR!

## N. B. C. Drive Nation-Wide

### YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE DRIVE ON NATIONAL BISCUIT NOW NATION-WIDE; YOUNG WORKERS RESPONDING

By BARNEY MASS.

The young workers in the National Biscuit Company of Chicago greeted with enthusiasm the last "Young Worker" containing the exposure of their rotten conditions. When the league members appeared with the paper, over 650 were sold the first night. The night following some 350 and a few more for the remaining days of the week. Over 1,000 "Young Workers" were sold.

That the bosses of this notorious open shop were deeply concerned with the Young Workers League efforts to get the biscuit makers awakened to their position, was shown by the police secured to intimidate the workers from purchasing the Young Worker. League speakers addressed the employees thru street meetings situated near the factory and explained the purpose of the campaign. Not only is the Chicago league in the campaign, but New York, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and many other leagues are getting into the drive with this issue. Not only will the young biscuit makers of the Chicago plant receive our message, but those working for the National Biscuit everywhere.

Rotten Conditions Reviewed.

Let us review the conditions under which the girls and boys are forced to toil in the hot, dirty biscuit plants. The buildings in every city are practically built on the same basis. The sewer plants have a more efficient speed-up system and are able to extract more profits from the workers. Working in suffocating rooms, standing all day on their feet, toiling for 9 and 10 hours per day and not being paid for overtime. (I am including the overtime they work each day in the above estimation.) Keeping the girls and boys divided on issues of nationality, religion and what not is another means the bosses use in wringing more profits from their labor. Much discrimination between the help is practiced by the company and the workers have up to now suffer for this trick of the boss. The company has made enough profits to enable them in raising the pay of the employees to the standard of what a human being should receive.

Profits and the H. C. of L.  
In 1922 the profits were \$11,024,980  
(Continued on next page.)

### HERE IS THE RESULT OF THE LAST GREAT WAR TO END ALL WAR

10,000,000 workers were killed in the Great War.  
15,000,000 workers were wounded in the Great War.  
4,000,000 men were under arms in 1913.  
12,000,000 men are under arms today.

\$330,000,000 voted by the United States for war purposes.  
The British "Labor" government has provided 2,000,000 pounds for the air fleet.  
290,000,000 pounds have been spent by Great Britain on armaments since 1918.  
France has an air-force of 350,000.

### Young Workers League Holds City Convention

With some fifty odd delegates the Chicago league finished its convention Sunday, July 28. The sessions of the conference throughout were peppy and the newly elected City Executive Committee promises to be a very successful one. The factory campaigns and shop nuclei was given more discussion than any other point on the agenda. The sentiment of the delegate was one which determined to get down to work until the next convention will be held. Everyone is of the opinion that by the next city convention great results will be shown.

### "THE WAR TO END WAR" Berlin Paper Exposes New War Pact

BERLIN.—The "Berliner Tageblatt," a conservative paper in this city, has published a secret agreement between France and Czechoslovakia which provides for mutual assistance in the event of war, particularly in the event of a state of belligerency in which Poland shall be involved. Where is the war that was supposed to end all wars?

### PRIVATE GETS 10 YEARS FOR SOCKING HIS LOOIE A WALLOP ON THE FACE

SAN ANTONIO, Texas.—Private William Cosmos, army pugilist of Ft. Sam Houston, was sentenced to 10 years' hard labor by a general court martial here for striking his first lieutenant in the face. Lieut. Clark H. Mitchell was the complainant.

### THREE YEAR OLD KIDS SLAVE ON COTTON PLANTS

#### Children Subjected to Dangerous Ills

WASHINGTON.—Under the Texas law no child is too young to work in the cotton fields, according to statements in a pamphlet issued by the United States children's bureau.

"While it is generally true that children working on farm work under the supervision of their parents at tasks which need not involve danger or undue hardship and which may have a distinct educational value, it is important that consideration be given to the extent to which rural child labor does not involve long hours, physical strain and serious interference with education," states the pamphlet.

Illness Always Threatens.

It is shown that cotton picking in Texas involves considerable exposure to cold and dampness, as well as to heat, inasmuch as it lasts from late August or early September into November or December, a period during which thermometers climb to 99 degrees and fall to 20 degrees above zero.

Tiny Ones Slave.

"Some of the cotton plants grow shoulder high, with cotton bolls nearly all the way to the ground. Little children can pick without stooping, but older children and adults have to stoop or move along on their knees. The worker puts the cotton into a big sack which he drags along by a shoulder strap. Full bags are carried to the wagon, weighed and emptied.

Even 3 Year Olds!

It is shown that babies 3 years old work in the cotton fields. The bureau representatives say "Working 12 hours, a 6 year old girl who had begun field work at the age of 4 picked 80 pounds a day, and 4 year old twins in the same family working beside their mother in the field put into her bag on an average 12 or 15 pounds a day."

Cotton pickers are paid on an average of \$2 per 100 pounds.



## LABOR CONDEMNS PLATOON SCHOOL AS CASTE PLAN

### "Tools of Industrial Interests" Charge

By JOE CARROLL.

CHICAGO.—Switching school children direct from the elementary school into the factory is what the platoon system of education looks like to the Chicago Federation of Labor. Platoons were condemned by unanimous vote.

The Chicago school board intends to try out the new plan in a number of buildings in the fall. Children march by classes from room to room as they change subjects and teachers, or turn from recitation to study or recreation. This trooping around the building gives the system its name of platoon.

Speeches and the report of the executive board of the labor central body charged that the school board is the tool of industrial interests in the attempt to enslave the young mind and the young body to the low-skill, low-factory system.

Although 66 cities are experimenting with the system no large city has adopted it generally and New York threw it out in 1917, according to Secretary Olander, Illinois State Federation of Labor, one of the principal assailants of the plan.

System is inefficient. Teachers under the platoon system can't come to know their young pupils or to knit their subjects in with the rest of what is being taught, it was charged. Children sit waiting for the bell to march into the next room instead of tending to business.

Propaganda by the school board and the interests and their newspapers for the platoon is heavily colored, it was asserted, by showing up only the bad points of the present schoolroom with one teacher in charge of the children most of the day, while the alleged good points of the platoons were overplayed and the rest suppressed.

### Young Biscuit Workers Haven't Improved Their Conditions Since 1898

(Continued from page 1)

other huge open-shops, among them the notorious American Can Co. Rockefeller himself has his hands in the profits, while the company is directly controlled by such men as Francis L. Hine, E. S. Moore and Paul Moore. Francis L. Hine is president of the First National Bank of New York and a director in some sixteen powerful corporations, including mines, railways and even colleges. Hines also controls the American Can Company along with Moore.

Starvation Wages Bring Dough. The great increase in the profits during the first six months of 1924 show what a success the company can make out of child labor and starvation wages. In a year when very few companies are gaining, the N. B. C. succeeded in increasing their net earning to \$19.50 a share on the old stock or \$39 a share annual rate. One reason for this increase is that the company has stopped spending money on improving the plants, the condition of which they are not interested in as long as they do not get bad enough to impair the speed of work which the bosses always maintain. The only expenditures the company is making now are on additions to plants and in building new ones.

Break Boss Control! If the N. B. C. workers would realize their strength long enough to break the open shop traditions of their company, the bosses would have to give them back some of the wealth which they produce, at the least, increasing their wages. But so far the rule has been the more wealth the N. B. C. workers produce for their bosses, the less pay they receive themselves, so that after 26 years of increasing profits for the National Biscuit Company the workers find that they have permitted the bosses to take all and that they are no better off than in 1898.

# WITH THE YOUNG WORKERS ON THE JOB

## HEATER BOYS ORGANIZED.

Chicago, Ill.

The Young Workers League has put Hegewisch, Illinois, on the map in so far as the revolutionary youth movement in this country is concerned. The Western Steel Car and Foundry Company, located in this suburb of Chicago, known for its intolerable conditions and hostile attitude towards the labor movement, again forced the workers to rebel against another attempt to reduce their wages and increase their hours of toil.

This corporation demonstrates conclusively its opposition to any organization on the part of its employees by refusing to meet the demands at the cost of a considerable loss in its business. The strike practically paralyzed all work, but we find these predatory interests with their insatiable demands willing to spend thousands in order to keep organization away from the car builders.

As usual the young workers, heater boys, took the initiative in leading the workers to revolt against a proposed reduction in salary. The riveters, buckers and reamers followed the lead of the militant heater boys. "We are out to put a stop to Mr. Buckley's (manager of the company) wage slashing and speed up system this time," said one of the lads. This psychology expresses the sentiment of the strikers.

The district committee in Chicago of the Y. W. L. immediately took cognizance of the situation and, with comrades Mass and Shachtman representing that body, succeeded in organizing the young workers on strike into a nucleus of the Young Workers League. In exploiting the condition prevailing in Hegewisch is demonstrated the ability of the Y. W. L. in taking advantage of a favorable situation for its own interest. By showing these young workers that we are capable of defending their most elemental and primitive needs their confidence in the organization becomes established. Such work will lead the Y. W. L. unto a mass movement.

The league members did more than agitate and propagate the ideas of the class struggle into the minds of the youthful toilers. It displayed competency in furnishing direction and taking supervision in conducting the strike. Contributing in the discussions, helping in organizing the picket line and much other necessary activity, it became the inspiration, flesh and muscle of this rebellion. From newly organized league members from the vanguard of this mass of workers. The captain of the pickets is an officer of the Y. W. L. Branch. Nearly all the responsibility rests on the shoulders of these young revolutionists.

Means and ways of financing the strike is being formulated by this branch of the Y. W. L. It is furthering all the work of the strike activity. Only through their becoming members of the Young Workers League of America was made possible the important role being played by these young rebels. I think the Chicago district organization has set a precedent for the membership nationally to follow. It proves the necessity of being wide awake and of participation in the class struggle through deeds and not by words. It is giving the proper interpretation to the program of the Y. W. L., which proves undoubtedly successful and correct when put into execution. Onward, comrades, more work of this nature will realize our slogan "To the masses."

Fraternally yours,  
BARNEY MASS.

## IN SUNNY CALIFORNIA.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Comrades: Being conscripted into the army of job-hunters, I made my way, in answer to an advertisement, to the New Method Steam Laundry. The foreman looked me over and asked me cautiously if I was old enough to stay away from school. I replied that I was, at which he was quite relieved, and gave me a job in the sorting and distributing department.

It was very near noon, so he asked me to go up on the third floor to the cafeteria, and explained that work began at 8 a. m., stopped at 11:30 for lunch, began at 12 m., ended with the 4:30 p. m. whistle, and used up as much of Saturday as there was work to be done.

I thanked him, went up on the third floor, and took a good look at the array of food offered for sale. It consisted of three kinds of sandwiches, greasy beans, water-fried tomato soup, and various kinds of pies, ice cream and pop. The company evidently anticipated displeasing reactions, for they placed gloom-dispelling free coffee service in the dining room. However, not being in a position to grumble over such trifles as proper diet, I let calories fly to the winds—or hot steam—which is more appropriate.

The next day I observed that I had to wait in the cafeteria line for fifteen minutes, which left me only fifteen minutes in which to eat and rest. For I forgot to mention that there is not one blessed vestige of a chair where I worked notwithstanding the fact that I was on the go the whole eight hours, lifting armloads of finished laundry off of movable racks, pushing the racks, loaded and empty from room to room, and speedily putting the articles into allotted customers' piles on the shelves. I am short, and

the shelves are high. This involved constant stretching and lifting, until the pain in my arms and legs grew fierce. For this reason, I looked forward to the 11:30 whistle. In my fifteen spare moments, then I chewed over the food problem.

I observed that the employees had several alternatives. First, they might bring their own lunch, which, in order to be easily and conveniently carried, must necessarily consist of being wide awake and of participation in the class struggle through deeds and not by words. It is giving the proper interpretation to the program of the Y. W. L., which proves undoubtedly successful and correct when put into execution. Onward, comrades, more work of this nature will realize our slogan "To the masses."

Fraternally yours,  
BARNEY MASS.

## NUCLEUS WORKING IN CLEVELAND.

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Comrades: We have a nucleus in the Empire Rolling Mills. This plant employs 400 workers and of this sum 100 are young workers. The work is very hard. The mill is organized under the American Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers. All the members belong to the union.

There is much discrimination between the employees. The laborers are not included in the union. They work 12 hours, whereas the others toil only eight. This issue will be taken advantage of by the nucleus. The nucleus acts as an organized fraction in the union and has strong influence therein. At our meeting we succeeded in getting a motion thru for the discussion of the C. P. P. A. and the F. L. P. Our members exposed the C. P. P. A. for what it actually is and went on record in favor of the Workers Party national ticket with Wm. Z. Foster for president and Benjamin Gitlow for vice-president.

We think that within the near future we will have another nucleus organized. All the branches in the city are taking an exceptional interest in the nucleus activity. I hope the comrades will follow our lead.

Fraternally yours,  
GEORGE PAPCUN.

TRADE SCHOOLS IN DETROIT. Dear Comrades: Lured by promises of well-paid jobs after only a few weeks' training, many jobless men are induced to part with their last few dollars to so-called trade schools.

One school, known as the "Manufacturers' Training Association,"

claims to be run by the organized manufacturers of this state. The assurance that the school is run by the employers is enough to win the confidence of many victims.

Besides this school, which is at 523 Woodward avenue, this same gang have an office at the General Motors Bldg. Here they are known as the "United Construction Co." This company has never been known to construct anything, but it answers for the purpose of advertising for men willing to work and gain experience in plastering, brick laying, plumbing and all other building trades. When men apply for work efforts are made to induce them to enroll in their school at a cost of \$75 in cash or \$100 in part payments.

Another one of their methods is to advertise something as follows: 60 men wanted at once, phone Empire 074. When men apply they are told to call at the address of this school. It is notorious that the men who go to these schools are taught so little that bosses never hire them for very long except as scabs. This shows the necessity of the labor unions taking over completely the apprentice training of all those who wish to enter the industry.

Fraternally yours,  
PHILIP RAYMOND.

## HOW R. O. T. C. IS RECRUITED.

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Comrades: No stone is left unturned in order to get recruits for the high school Reserve Officers' Training Corps. In the high school a "crack" platoon is organized, and sent to the junior high schools before the end of the term in an attempt to make "rookies" out of the prospective students. Military games, etc., are played to make an impression.

When the term has started, placards are placed in the hall appealing for fresh cannon fodder. Recruiting stations are established and every member of the R. O. T. C. is a recruiting agent, parading the halls, grasping the newcomers' arm and making wild promises. As an inducement for doing this they are offered a corporalship if they get seven new ones.

Then, as a last resort, a special auditorium call for boys is issued. There, the principal showers meaningless praises upon the local army which makes the members chuckle. He is followed by an appeal from the captain and the colonel. In a high school which the writer attends, the colonel admitted that the R. O. T. C. would be used to "stem the tide of discontent which foreigners, jealous of our good (or Doheny) government, have engineered."

Fraternally yours,  
I. SPENCER.

## 'KEEP THE NAVY' SAYS BRITON-BUT NOT FOR WAR

### Admiral Kids the U. S. With Piffle

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—"It is just as important for the United States and Great Britain to keep their fleets up to this ratio as it is to keep them down to it," was the brilliant remark made here by the British Vice Admiral Sir Frederick L. Field in addressing a luncheon of 800 navy veterans and fat business men.

The vice-admiral went on to make more nonsensical remarks. "One great thing has happened since the war. It was the Washington treaty started by the United States government. Its provisions have cut down the great and costly competition of armaments and have created more money for peaceful pursuits. The people do not always realize what a wonderful thing this has been and what it means for peace."

Peace—It Ain't!

The piffle being spread by the naval gentleman will not be believed by any intelligent worker. It is well known that in spite of the Washington disarmament treaty, the nations involved have continued to perfect and improve their naval and military forces. This has been done for no other purpose than the preparation for an oncoming war. Those who remember the speech made in congress by Representative Fred Britten, of Illinois, in which he advocated the elevation of American battleship guns so that they be a least on the level of those of the British fleet, will recall also his statement to the effect that in the event of a war with Great Britain, America would have to be on at least an equal basis in order to win. In the debate on the proposition, the provisions of the Washington conference were recognized as things to be ignored, and that it amounted to "every man for himself."

How About Japan?

Other military and naval expert are calculating America's strength when it comes to a war with Japan and many others are wondering how England will line up when the inevitable war with the Japs comes about with the basis of it being the control of the Pacific ocean and the coal and iron fields of China.

If England should happen to line up against the United States in order to protect the interests of its own imperialists and financiers, all this bunbun about the amity between the U. S. and England would suddenly be forgotten and the Britishers would be come as bad as the "Huns" were said to be during the last war.

They Spill the Dope.

In the meantime, the peddlers of nonsense continue to speak their pieces before Chambers, Commerce and business men's associations and the newspapers print the stories in the hopes that the young workers who will form the armies of capitalism in the next war as in past wars will fall for the slop and fall in line when the next draft comes along. Good! Into the army, and work for the workers.

## ATTENTION!

WILL all readers of the YOUNG WORKER, who have friends or acquaintances in the regular army, navy, marine, aircraft forces, national guard, state militia, or federal state armed forces of any other kind please send in their names and addresses to the national office of the Young Workers League? We must want to get as large a list of names of these young and old workers who are in the service of this country. Send in your list by putting down the names and service addresses of those you know and any others you can get from other friends. Send them to 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois.

Let us be fellows working in the harmony of association for the common good.—William Morris.

## NATIONAL BISCUIT DRIVE NATION-WIDE

(Continued from page 1)

and the share holders earned 45 per cent on the preferred stock. In view of this, how can the employees remain satisfied with a meagre average salary of \$15.00 a week. We find that in the following cities the total retail cost of food increases; mention is being made of only the cities where plants of Nabisco exist, Rochester 3 per cent, Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City 2 per cent, etc. As compared with the average cost in the year 1913 the retail cost of food on December 15, 1922, 55 per cent higher in New York, 55 per cent in Washington, D. C., Philadelphia 49 per cent and Chicago 48 per cent. The situation now is aggravated more so due to unemployment. The bosses pocket the money and the ones who make the biscuits walk the streets hungry, desolate and desperate. This is free America, the land which kills the child.

Big Interests Behind N. B. C.

The most powerful interests of this country control and own the National Biscuit Company. Only a few weeks back all of the capitalist papers were boasting of the remarkable gains and the prosperous year their huge organized machine had for the ending year of 1923. It is now busily engaged in the task of adding more plants. Vaguely hinted for the reasons of the prosperity of the N. B. C. is not due so much to the increased demand for its product but its deviation from the old policy of re-investing in the production. In other words, it means that very few improvements have been made in the plants to make lighter the burden of the people who must eat there. Also the intentions for the future seems to be that fewer and fewer improvements in the conditions will be made. Hines, Reynolds, the Moores, who are directly and indirectly connected with the Rockefeller

and Morgan interests are the big figures in the National Biscuit.

Where Is Advancement Bunk?

In slack seasons many departments are suspended from operation until such time that business will justify its reopening. This is done in every plant throughout the whole United States. No concern is given the girls and boys who will have no money to live on, while their department is closed. Many of the workers employed for several years have no increase to show in pay. They are more than satisfied to enjoy the wages they first received when beginning to work, not alone that of a raise.

Part Time Shut Downs.

The departments cease work at different times. To see sister waiting for sister, mother for daughter in front of the gate is a common sight at the slave shops of the National Biscuit. When beginning work in the morning, one is sure of the exact time that will be worked for that day. Sometimes it is an extra hour, other times it is more, and so on. The most aggravating thing is that no pay is given for overtime.

At the present time the bosses are preparing to fill their gaps that will exist when much of their help will return to school. Every summer many school girls obtain work with the N. B. C. and the company pays the school girls less. They use this as a means of lowering the salaries of the girls who have to work for a living. As it is only temporary employment for the students, they take the work in such an attitude and in many cases they work only for a few weeks to be replaced by more. The school girls and boys fail to see the injury they are doing to the others and eventually themselves. In following such a procedure. The signs GIRLS WANTED become the fall fashion of the National Biscuit Company.

Rebelling Against Conditions.

As the young girls and boys went on strike in the paper box factories of New York city for a \$22.00 week, the young carbuilders in Hegewisch rebelled against a proposed reduction in pay; and to be witnessed throughout the whole country the revolting sentiment of the young industrial workers, it should be in the same spirit that the young biscuit makers should tackle their job. We must fight for a human existence. We must unite under one banner against the cruel, murderous capitalist class that is trying to crush us. We must teach the bosses of the National Biscuit Company that we are just as much human beings as they and we can do this only through fighting for the following demands under the leadership of the Young Workers' League of America, the only organization devoted in the fight for the emancipation of the Young Workers. If you can agree on the following demands, then don't be noisy, and just agree. No! Join with us, it is your fight! All together for these demands:

1. Abolition of overtime.
2. A minimum wage in proportion to the living conditions and ranging upwards.
3. A six-hour day and a five-day

## WAR TRAINING CAMP TEACHES YOUTH THE WAR AGAINST 'REDS'

(Special to "The Young Worker.")

ROLLING PRAIRIE, Ind.—The big militarists of the United States, dominated and backed by the big capitalists, are hot on the job of teaching the young "militarists" of the country what their future jobs as counter-revolutionary agents are to be in the army. The men, most of them mere boys, in Camp Roosevelt, citizens' military training camp here, were given the problem of evacuating a company of "reds" which were supposed to be camped in Laporte.

The "blues" won this time, but maybe another time the "red army" will win, and it's just possible that some of the youngsters may be proud of being "reds" and learn how to use their military power for other purposes than for obeying capitalists' orders to crush workers' revolts.

## PIFFLE PEDDLER WANTS YOUTH TO FLOCK TO FARMS

PHILADELPHIA—Dr. John M. Thomas, president of the Pennsylvania State College is trying to divert the exodus of the youth from the farms to the industrial centers. In a booklet, "Your College of Agriculture," just issued by the learned professor he points out the wonderful opportunities available to the student-farmer by applying his brains to the over-mortgaged dirt.

Among the gems of reasoning in the doctor's piffle pamphlet is:

Listen to the Piffle! "The best doorway to a successful business career open today to the young man whose early life has been spent on a farm is thru a good course in a college school of agriculture."

No, Marx did not say the last word on dialectics. Dr. Thomas proves that by studying astronomy, husbandry, botany, forestry, horticulture and landscape architecture the young farm aspirant can become a J. P. Morgan.

Evidently there is a great falling off in the number of agricultural students. With an overflow of professional men, the colleges are trying to divert the students into speculative blind alleys, and are attempting to keep the farming youth on the farms.

week.

Equal pay for equal work done by young and old workers, no discrimination in age over wages.

4. A four-weeks' vacation annually with pay.

5. Abolition of piece work and the speed-up system.

6. Meals in the cafeteria to be served at cost price.

## MAKE PLANS FOR WAR DAY!

(Continued from page 1)

to make war that receives its sustenance from those who profit by war. Why does the National Security League want 9,000,000 men and boys taught the art of fighting and murder? Why do they want this vast horde in uniform with guns on their shoulders? Simply because it means that Gary will be kept busy making 18,000,000 rifles. Du Pont, billions of rounds of ammunition, and all the rest of the war supply producers will be adding astronomical figures to their bank accounts.

The Citizens' Military Training Camps is but a drop in the bucket. You can't get the "public" to swallow militarization in big doses. The Citizens' Military Training Camps is but a foretaste of some form of universal military training or maybe conscription which the bankers and munition manufacturers are planning.

The American bankers and their munition manufacturing corporate families cannot forget the fortunes they made during the world war. Scraps of flesh still cling to millions of human bones in Flanders Field, yet the American, French and British capitalists are preparing to slaughter millions more of workers so that their fresh, supple bodies might keep company with the gaunt, drying skeletons of the World War.

Labor's Answer to War.

What is labor's answer to Mobilization Day, the day of preparation for more profits for the munition manufacturers and bankers?

Mobilization Day foreshadows misery and slaughter for the entire working class. For the capitalist class it holds promise of new conquests of huge fortunes made overnight. For the Morgans, Du Ponts, Rockefellers, Fords, it means a sure grip upon the world. For the Henry Dubs, the American workers, it means degradation and enslavement such as is now the lot of the German and other Central European workers.

Workers Should Show Power.

Mobilization Day can be stopped. Its portent can be made innocuous; its poison can be made harmless; its intent can be thwarted—by a united working-class refusing to take part in its own enslavement. An indifferent American working class on September 12 will embolden the chief backers of Mobilization Day. Morgan, Kuhn, Loeb, Vanderbilt and the other bankers will watch every tremor of the American workers on September 12. Failure in protest will mean to the bankers that they can carry their nefarious plans to the limit. To them, a timid, spineless working class will mean that another war is not only possible at a moment's notice, but will meet but little resistance from those who have to fight it.

The Greed For War.

The world war gave stimulus to the munition factories the world over. The war demanded giant supplies, and the munition factories expanded accordingly. There is no war now and the owners of the international munition factories fret and fume.

The fight against war and increasing armaments is not restricted to America alone, though it is a fact that the United States stands out as the foremost war supply manufacturing country in the world. The fight of the working class against the designing munition manufacturers and bankers is and must be world wide. That America is the largest manufacturer of war supplies indicates that the fight will be the harder in this country. But the workers cannot flinch. In their hands rests the answer to the question: Shall it be again? The answer should have two alternatives. War! Or a workers' revolution!

Labor reforms proposed by the capitalist parties afford about as much relief as a man gets carrying a heavy grip when he shifts it from one hand to the other.

Labor is its own bondsman.—Words.

## Sign on the Dotted Line!

This will insure you a prompt monthly delivery of the only journal giving a keen, reliable analysis of the latest developments in the world's first workers' government. You will enjoy it even more with the large number of interesting photographs that appear only in the pages of

## SOVIET RUSSIA PICTORIAL

Subscription

\$2.00 a year \$1.00 six months

SOVIET RUSSIA PICTORIAL  
19 South Lincoln St.,  
Chicago, Ill.

Name .....

Street & No. ....

City..... State.....

## The Sub Drive Is Extended!

THE subscription drive for The Young Worker has been extended for a period of another month. This means that the drive to get subs for the official organ of the Young Workers League of America is to be extended to September 15, 1924.

This should give all the branches who are in the campaign plenty of time to achieve their full quotas and instead of having the race stand as to who will get closest to the 100 per cent mark, we can have it stand as to who will get the highest percentage over 100 per cent.

The next issue of The Young Worker will contain a complete list of the subscriptions received up to date. How does your branch stand? Have you put all the push you have behind the drive? Have you sent in the subs as soon as you got them or are you letting them pile up on you?

Don't waste another minute! Send in those subs immediately! Get your branch to stand at the head of the list!

SEND THEM IN TO

THREE THOUSAND SUBSCRIBERS BY SEPTEMBER 15  
THE YOUNG WORKER 1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.



## SHOWS ILLINOIS NATIONAL GUARD AS BOSSES' TOOL

### Foreman Gives Away the Whole Game

CHICAGO.—Now we know what the Illinois national guard is for... It is kept going primarily to shoot hell into the union coal miners of the state.

No Communist agitator but the commanding general of the 33rd division is authority for the statement. He admits it and drives it home to one of the big downstate coal companies. He clinches it further by an appeal to the Chicago national guard commission of which F. O. Wetmore, head of the First National (Standard Oil) bank is president.

Gives Himself Away. Maj. Gen. Milton J. Foreman, the man who had charge of the state military investigation of the Herrin mine war in 1922, gives away the state militia gag in a hot letter to a coal company official, one of whose employees had resigned from the guard just before the 1924 training period.

The Franklin County Coal Company has mines just north of Williamson county where the luckless attempt to run non-union mines during the 1922 coal strike was made. Edwin B. Keeler, vice-president of the company, who had endorsed the resignation of his employees from the national guard, received the following plainspoken tip from Gen. Foreman:

"I am permitted in passing to express my very great surprise that, in the light of past events, a coal company whose mines are located as yours are does not appreciate the wisdom and see its way clear in its own interests, if for no other reasons, to arrange for and sit upon the performance by its employees of their military duty."

The militia general tells one of his real employees, a coal magnate, that the national guard exists to shoot down union miners and help the bosses by bayoneting union labor in time of trouble.

# The Workers and the Last War

By KARL REEVE

WHEN the great demonstration exploded which announced that the world war was over, the gnarled old Scotch and shipfitter who was working with me in the Hog Island shipyards at that time, spat a wad of tobacco down over the poop deck into the Delaware River and said, "The war is over; now labor can go to hell."

The ship-yard worker during the European war had plenty of chances to learn that the war "to make the world safe for democracy" was in reality a capitalistic slaughter to enable war profiteers to protect their capital invested in foreign lands, and to turn the blood of the American workers into millions of dollars at home.

Workers Were Swindled.

The ship-yard workers were supposed to be the reserve line trenches of the American army in France. In

token of this they were given a badge for every three months service in the shipyards. Yet every shipyard worker knew that the large shipyard had sold ships to the government which had not yet been built, on a cost-plus basis. This meant that a percentage of the money spent was given the shipyard owners over their expenditures, and the game, consequently, was to spend as much money as possible. This money was supplied by the workers in the Liberty Bonds that the employers forced the laboring men to buy.

Business As Usual.

In the Harriman shipyard at Bristol, Pa., for instance, the Harriman interests sold twelve ships of 12,000 tons to the government for hundreds of millions of dollars. When the war ended, not one ship had been completed and placed at the disposal of the United States Government, yet millions of dollars were given the Harriman company for spending the workers' Liberty Bond money.

The changed attitude of the employers toward labor immediately

upon the ending of the war was first and most sharply noticeable in the shipyards and other war industries. The war graft of the profiteers was great while it lasted. The war profiteers sold their rotten supplies to the government for hundreds of millions of dollars, and the government later burned these supplies or resold them to the capitalists for a few dollars.

Deflation Process Begins.

But labor had to be "put in its place" after the war. Labor, because of the scarcity, demanded a slightly inflated wage during the war, just as the capitalists demanded a greatly inflated price for their commodities. Labor, although not wise enough to make hay while the sun shone, and strengthen the trade unions when labor was in demand, grew a little self-confident during the war. The process of beating their self-confidence out of the workers started instantly the war ended.

The Open Shop Drive.

In the shipyards around Philadelphia, including the New York Shipbuilding Corporation, the Cramps ship-

yards, Hog Island, the Sun Shipbuilding Company at Chester, the Harriman company at Bristol, the Taylor yards and others, as soon as the war was over, put the clamps on labor. All overtime work was cut out. Wages were reduced. Thousands of men were laid off and rehired, sometimes the same day, at greatly reduced wages. Time clocks were installed and it was made compulsory to punch them four times a day. Work was greatly speeded up. Loafing on the job was stopped. Trades union members were fired and blacklisted. The world was safe for democracy, and the open shop drive was on with full force.

The Disillusioned Veterans.

The ex-soldiers who straggled back into the industries after getting off the transports, were a sad and disillusioned lot. Many of these men entered the shipyards. They were given no advantages over the others, however. Most of them had only their uniforms. They had to sell their transportation home to buy something to eat. Immediately the returned sol-

diers were also made to feel the open shop drive. Their old jobs were often filled by cheaper labor. If they got them back they had to work at open shop pay. Soldiers overran the cities, begging, stealing, doing the most menial work in order to exist.

How About the Next War?

Most of the shipyards workers and ex-soldiers were young men. They lost their illusions about the war to end war. They found that women and child-labor had been brought into industry and together with the open shop drive, reduced the standard of living of the masses in this country. They found that "dollar a year" men who had handled the war contracts in Washington suddenly blossomed out into millionaires. They found that the only ones who benefited by the war were the big business men and the financiers. They found that the war had brought more intense wage slavery instead of workers control of industry.

Let us hope that if another capitalist war is broached they do not forget their lesson.

## NUMBER OF CHILD LABORERS JUMPS IN OLD VIRGINIA

RICHMOND, Virginia.—Virginia today offers a good example of how child labor is growing worse in many states throughout the country (especially the south) at the same time that the "intellectuals" and "liberals" in certain sections of the nation are raising such an ineffectual cry against it. Statistics gathered by the U. S. Department of Labor and published in the June "Labor Review" show that by the end of 1923 a total of 8,390 children were being employed in the state of Virginia. This is an increase of practically five thousand over the number of children employed in this state in 1922; the number having multiplied more than three times.

Increase in Manufactures.

The number of certificates granted for children in mercantile and manufacturing establishments alone has grown from 1,646 in 1922 to 4,446 in 1923, some 2,800 more children going straight from grammar school into industry without the chance of any further education. These figures only refer to children from 12 to 15, anybody older being considered an adult in this state.

In 1923 the number of children employed in factories in Virginia in violation of the child labor law was especially large, 717 cases being discovered by factory inspectors—almost three times as many violations as in 1922—while many children under fourteen must have continued working without being detected.

Street Trades Also Jump.

Especially noticeable is the increase in the number of children granted badges for the street trades, the total number employed in the streets amounting to 3,924 by the end of 1923. Of this number nearly a thousand were twelve years of age, an equal number were thirteen, while the remaining two thousand were fourteen and fifteen.

While a few manufacturers of the north who find the employment of children unprofitable for certain heavy industries are trying to prove their generosity and political benevolence by supporting a national child labor law—other manufacturers in this state and throughout the country who find that in their industries the exploitation of children is very profitable, are doing their best to see that the number of child workers shall increase rather than decrease.

Big Profits From Children.

Tobacco and the silk and cotton mills are among the leading industries of Virginia—the tobacco industry ranking first in the state. The fact that all three of these industries can employ children at great profit accounts for the greater increase in child labor in this state than in certain other states.

In the same issue of the "Labor Review" alongside the figures showing the increasing child labor, other statistics show that, as usual, the employment of children is in no way necessitated by a shortage of labor on the other hand all the industries employing children register increasing unemployment while in the case of Virginia as a whole, the number of workers employed shows a marked decline.

## My Flight From Siberia

By Leon Trotsky

WHAT wonderful creatures these reindeer are! They know neither hunger nor fatigue. They were fed for the last time twenty-four hours before we started and we have been on the way twenty-four hours and they have still eaten nothing. According to Nikovor they are now "properly in form." They keep up the same pace untiringly, covering eight or ten versts an hour. Every ten or fifteen versts the driver pauses for two or three minutes to let the animals breathe, then the journey continues. Such a stretch is called a "reindeer run" and distances throughout this district are not measured in versts but in "reindeer runs." Five runs are about sixty or seventy versts.

When we reach the youtas of Schominsk, where we part from the old man and his team we shall have covered at least ten runs. Quite a good distance. My spirits rise again. Somewhere about nine o'clock in the evening, long after it was quite dark, we met several sleighs—the first we had seen in the whole time. Nikovor tried to go by without pausing but it could not be done. The track was so narrow that when our reindeer deviated ever so slightly from the course they sank in the snow up to their bellies. The other sleighs stopped. One of the drivers approached us, addressed Nikovor by his

name. "Who are you driving? Are you going far?"

"No, not far," answered Nikovor. "I'm driving a merchant from Obdorsk."

He seemed somewhat excited after this encounter. "The devil must have sent him to meet us! I haven't seen him for five years and yet he recognized me. They are Silyans, from Liapinsk, 100 versts from here—on their way to Beresov for supplies and liquor. Tomorrow night they will be in town."

"It's all the same to me," I answered. "No one can catch us now. But will you get into trouble when you return?"

"Why should I get into trouble? I'll say I'm a sleigh driver. My business is to drive anybody who comes along and asks me. It isn't written on their foreheads whether they're merchants or politicians. A police officer gives them stern looks. I'm a driver and I drive. That's right, isn't it?"

"Quite right." The night was dark and gloomy. The moon would not rise until well towards morning. The reindeer went on with certitude, despite the darkness. We met no one. It must have been about one o'clock in the morning when we suddenly emerged from the darkness into a circle of bright light. Squatted before a fire, on the trail were two figures, one tall, the other diminutive. Water boiled in a kettle and an Ostiak lad was cutting bits of tea from a compressed brick, throwing them into the boiling water. When we entered the circle of light made by the fire our sleigh and reindeer vanished as though a curtain had fallen between them and us. We hear a strange and incomprehensible language spoken between these Ostiaks. Nikovor took a cup from the boy and sipped it in the boiling water, cooled the contents with a bit of snow, and drank it down in deep, long draughts. Then he refilled the cup with snow and put it back into the pot. It looked as if he were preparing some mysterious potion, here in this wild solitude, above the fire that gleamed in the midst of the pitch darkness.

Our reindeer are beginning to feel the strain. Each time we pause they lie down beside each other and eat snow. About two o'clock we reached the youtas of Schominsk. We decided to give the reindeer a rest here, and to feed them. The youtas are not nomadic tents, but permanent dwellings built of planks. Nevertheless, there is a vast difference between these and the youtas at which we halted on the Tobolsk trail. There they were really peasant huts, two rooms, with a Russian fireplace, with a samovar, chairs—all somewhat more crude and dirtier than the average Siberian peasant hut. Here there was only one room with a primitive hearth instead of a fireplace, without furniture, with a low doorway, a block of ice instead of a window. Nevertheless I felt quite cheerful as I removed my reindeer and sheepskin coats and my reindeer shoes. An old Ostiak woman hung these up by the fire to dry. I had eaten scarcely anything in the past twenty-four hours.

How comfortable it was to sit on a plank bed covered with reindeer hides, eating veal with half frozen bread, waiting for the tea to boil. I drank a small glass of brandy, and the warmth of body and a cheerfulness of spirits seemed to pervade my being. I could scarcely believe that this was not the end of my journey.

A young Ostiak with red ribbons wound in his long hair rose from one of the plank beds and went out to feed our reindeer.

"What will be feed them?" I asked Nikovor.

"Moss. He'll turn them loose at a place where there is moss and they'll dig away the snow and find it for themselves. They'll eat away until they're satisfied. A reindeer doesn't need much, you know."

"Don't they eat bread?"

"They don't eat anything but moss, unless they've been raised on bread, but that doesn't happen often."

The old man awakened a young woman who rose and went into the yard, covering her face with a bit of cloth so that I should not see it. It was obvious that she was going to help her husband, who was feeding our reindeer. The Ostiaks are a terribly lazy race and all their hard work is done by the women. They not only do all the work about the youtas but it is not at all unusual to see them with guns, hunting squirrels and rabbits. A forester from Tobolsk told me, once upon a time, some interesting tales of the Ostiaks and their habits and customs. It seems he was exploring the barren districts in the Tobolsk province and half hired Ostiaks as guides. Every Ostiak he had hired came to his work accompanied by a woman, wife, mother, or sister. The woman carried all the burdens, axe, teapot, provisions. The man carried only the knife stick in his belt. When a halt was made the woman advanced to brush trash away from the resting place, took the belt from the hand of the man—who unbuckled it to feel at ease—made a fire and prepared the food. The man sat down and smoked his pipe while he waited.

The tea was ready and I lifted the cup to my thirsty lips. But it smelled unbearably of fish. I put two teaspoons of essence of wintergreen berries into the cup and thus managed to overcome the odor of the fish. "Don't you notice it?" I asked Nikovor, who had taken no such precaution.

(To be continued.)

## BEHIND THE DAWES-MORGAN PLAN

THE Dawes plan for the rebuilding of Germany is the biggest step yet made by victorious American imperialism towards the control of Europe. It is laying the foundations for new and more bloody wars in which the lives of the young workers of the entire world.

The Dawes plan provides for \$200,000,000 to Germany, provided that her railroads and industries are put up as security. With the money obtained from the loan, Germany is supposed to begin the rebuilding of her industries. Should Germany succeed in rebuilding her industries, it can be only at the expense of the lives of her working class. Lower and lower will be the wages of the German workers; longer and longer will be the number of hours that they will toil in order to provide a good return on the investments of their masters and the foreign imperialist bankers who have put up good cash.

With a lower cost of production, Germany's capitalists will be able to produce commodities at a cheaper price and thus oblige the capitalists of other countries to reduce the wages and increasing the number of hours of American, British, French and other workers. The workers of the world will soon feel the bitter lash of the Dawes plan.

With Germany once more a powerful factor on the world economic

market, once more a strong competitor, the race for domination of the market will be given a new and sharper impetus. The arms of world capitalism will be increased and perfected; ditto, the navies; ditto, the air forces and submarine fleets.

Should Germany fail in her endeavors to stand up again, her railroads and industries will go by default into the hands of a financial receivership on a vastly huge scale than the incident during which France occupied the Ruhr Valley in order to get control of the coal and iron ore mines of that black belt. At that time, a state of war was the real relationship between France and Germany. Should the bankers of America, who will dig up for the German loan, attempt to send American soldiers to Germany in order to collect, the same situation will be found.

War is the result of capitalism! War is the logical outcome of the greedy rush for more and more profits by the international masters of money and power!

Against the Dawes plan we call for the overthrow of the capitalist system of society and the building up of the workers' republic of soviets all over the world.

Down with the imperialist Dawes plan! On with the fight against war of the bosses and for the war of the working class against its exploiters!

## "OH, FOR THE JOYS OF CHILD LABOR" IS MOAN OF CLARICE TO EXPLOITERS

CHICAGO.—Tears for the old days when children went to work at nine and ten years of age are shed by Clarice Hickman, who used to do the hiring and firing for The Fair, a Chicago department store.

"A few years ago," Clarice tells the 47,000 sympathetic members of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, "there were no labor laws to curtail the ambitions of youth in its infancy and the product of those days was a group of commerce builders."

"The large department and retail stores were developed and the cash and errand boys and girls who were on the pay roll at the age of nine or ten have progressed to presidents, general managers and super-executives succeeding them to harvest; the youth that has a tendency now to dissipate its hours in the movies and the dance halls."

Clarice leaves the impression that every nine-year-old cash girl in the golden days of yore is now a super-executive. If any girls failed to rise it was probably because of death from overwork or because they were run down by the midnight express on their way to the job.

Capitalism is a blanket mortgage on the living and unborn. It is a mortgage that can be released in but one way, and that is through Communism.

## Two Dollars a Week is Maximum Compensation to Thousands of Kiddies of Mine Accident Dead

HARRISBURG, PA.—Fatal accidents in Pennsylvania coal mines during the period between 1916 and 1922 made fatherless 4,065 children, according to a recent report of the Pennsylvania Compensation Rating and Inspection Bureau. The average age of these children was six years and thirty-four weeks. The compensation paid the mothers of the children ceases after 300 weeks, and although the compensation of each child will continue until the age of 16, it can seldom exceed \$2 a week.

## MASS REVIEWS NATIONAL FACTORY AND ECONOMIC DEMANDS' CAMPAIGNS OF THE LEAGUE

By BARNEY MASS

THE membership nationally is being mobilized for action! It must be said that the Chicago organization has more to its credit insofar as activity based on the factory campaigns is concerned, than any other league in the country. With the national committee and the newly reorganized district committee located in this city which is responsible for engaging the local organization in this work, the advantage of Chicago is obvious.

Campaigns Are Reviewed.

In reviewing the past activity of the Chicago-St. Louis district, we find that already it has to its credit the participation in three factory campaigns, and two strikes. That the committee under the supervision of the N. E. C. correctly interpreted its tasks can be verified by the results obtained. It is indeed old stuff to rehash in detail for the Chicago membership the experience gained in the Bunte Chocolate Company drive, National Biscuit Company, Western Electric and the strikes in Pullman and Hegewisch. It is the intention of the writer to show the fundamental issues involved and the benefits se-

cured from this activity. This article will serve another purpose which is to explain briefly to the other branches the manner with which to proceed with this work. Some few branches have written the national office requesting an organizer to help them in carrying on their work in the campaign against the National Biscuit Company and for obvious reasons it has been impossible to fulfill these demands. These demands makes incumbent on the national committee to elaborate on its work in the Chicago district to stimulate their activity on a national scale.

Strikes and the Y. W. L. In view of the growing unemployment and the concomitant open shop campaigns being instigated by the different boss organizations, we find as a result of this many strikes occurring spontaneously in the different industrial sections of this country. The strikes are against reductions in wages, an increase of the hours of toil, which is part of the open shop campaigns. What part will the Young Workers League play in view of the coming situation since this stage is nearing us now. Immediately the answer is: participation in the work and demonstrating to the young workers our ability to defend their most

primitive and elemental needs. The only thing left is the proper tactics to be adopted in carrying on this work. With this in mind we will interpret our experience gained in the above enumerated movements.

Nucleus From "Nabisco."

Considering the National Biscuit Company drive of more importance, as we are now engaged on a national scale: In this campaign, we will begin with it first. The result obtained is an existing potential nucleus, also the sale of eleven hundred YOUNG WORKERS, the furthering of the shop economic demands, popularizing the league through these demands and the general propaganda values. Many things were neglected, such as the technical work of preparing a mass meeting, etc., but the fundamental features were handled in a very efficient way. Leaflets were distributed for two days announcing the coming exposure in the YOUNG WORKER, before it made its appearance. The league membership carried on personal conversations with the workers as they came pouring out of the gates. The street meeting held was very successful. About two hundred names were obtained and these will be used to the greatest advantage possible by the local organization. This

short analysis displays what work of this nature means and shows the opportunity of realizing a mass organization.

And Another in Hegewisch!

In the strike at Hegewisch the league succeeded in getting 21 heater boys, the backbone of the strike, organized into a branch of the Y. W. L. To keep the branch in the sphere of influence and make it serve and play the proper role in the strike, it was immediately got into activity. The league immediately organized an entertainment, the proceeds of which will go to the strikers. This action on their part automatically received the admiration of all the strikers and increased its prestige. It must be understood that it is a nucleus and not a branch, giving consideration to the time when they will go back to work. The Hegewisch nucleus also played a prominent role in getting the union interested in the situation and made this issue popular through persistent agitation. This is an example for the membership! It must be considered as an accomplishment well worthy of favorable comment. A few of the girl comrades of the Chicago league attended a mass meeting of the strikers and helped to sell literature and gave full co-operation

to the comrades in Hegewisch. In addition to this, many Chicago members attended the league meetings of the nucleus, giving moral encouragement to its work. This is activity based on the class-struggle, not mere discussion of theory.

Where Are You?

Should Chicago be permitted to get so far ahead of the other leagues? And it is up to the other branches to demonstrate that they are yet to be considered as an entity in the struggle for leadership over the masses of the young American workers.

Our slogan: "Each branch adopt a factory." This slogan if carried to its conclusion will contribute more to making our organization take on a mass aspect than anything conceivable at the present moment. The branches should immediately begin calling for volunteers for this kind of work. Let us make each member an organizer, qualified to step into any situation and furnish the proper direction.

Let us back up this slogan by getting behind it in sending in reports on work. Let us settle down and continue our work on this practical basis. Let us popularize this slogan to realize a mass organization, "Each branch adopt a factory."

## One Million German Workers CHAINED TO THE ROCKS



600,000 Miners Locked Out  
400,000 Workers on Strike  
7,000 In German Prisons

WIVES AND CHILDREN

## STARVING

The German workers are fighting for the preservation of their rights and the eight hour day.

Their fight is our fight.

If they lose, we lose. If they win, we win.

Capitalists are quick to learn from each other.

Today it is Germany. Tomorrow it may be America.

## HELP HAMMER AWAY THE CHAINS

5c A BLOW 5c

OUR AIM:

To give aid to all needy workers and class war victims without conditions, without political discrimination, whenever and wherever the existence of a working class is menaced by an economic or natural catastrophe, or by political oppression.

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS' AID,  
19 So. Lincoln St., Chicago, Ill.

Please send me ..... 5c-stamp books (\$2.50 each) and I will get as many people as possible to take 5c hammer blows at the chains now enslaving German labor.

Enclosed find \$..... as my contribution.

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

CITY: ..... STATE: .....

Committee for International Workers' Aid

## SEND IN YOUR EXTRA BUNDLE ORDERS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY ISSUE OF "THE YOUNG WORKER"



**THE YOUNG WORKER**  
An Organ of the Militant Young Workers of America  
Vol. III. AUGUST 15, 1924 No. 16  
Published Twice a Month by the  
**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA  
MAX SHACHTMAN, Editor  
Send all orders and articles, and remit all funds to  
**THE YOUNG WORKER**  
1113 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, Ill.  
SUBSCRIPTION:—\$1.00 per year. Single copies 5  
cents. 3 cents per copy for bundles of 10 and over.  
290  
Member of The Federated Press.

## If War Should Come

**S**UPPOSE war should come again to America! Suppose the young workers of America, now toiling in the industries of this country, were to be drafted once more, dressed in uniforms and a rifle and shipped off to shoot down other young workers with whom they have no real quarrel? Suppose the entire world were once more to be thrown into the frightful march of the slaughter of the universe.

Are these things impossible? Not at all. We have pointed out time and again in *The Young Worker* how the basis is being laid for the coming war. We have indicated the preparations being made for it, the increases in the armies and navies of the world, the intensification of the training of the young workers in various camps maintained by big business or the government.

The basis of modern war is the capitalist system of society; and wars will never come to an end unless this system of society is overthrown and destroyed. The robbery by the capitalists of the surplus produced by the workers in the industries continually seeks a market where it can be bought. The profits of the bosses of this country is always on the hunt for new fields of investment. Inevitably, the imperialists of the separate nations come into conflict with each other over the control of new territory. Diplomatic letters are exchanged. The papers get excited. The preachers rave about the inferiority of the enemy. The professors write books about it. The movies prove it by showing a typical enemy as a villain who blows up bridges and tries to violate the desperate American virgin. In an amazingly short time, the two countries are at war and beautiful slogans are coined to hide the sordid reality of the struggle for profits by both powers concerned. The slaughter has begun to be ended only when rivers of blood have been shed.

It is against this coming slaughter that the Communist and Young Communist Internationals have arranged for the demonstrations of the revolutionary, class-conscious workers of the world as a sign for their forcible protest against imperialism and its father, capitalism. It is against the danger of war that the Workers Party and the Young Workers League of America have called upon the workers of this country to demonstrate.

Our struggle against imperialism and capitalism is not a pacifist one. For every sky pilot that now throws his eyes to the sky and pleads for peace and harmony among nations, there will be a hundred of the same stripe that will yell for murder when war is declared. For every one of them that finds a passage condemning strife in the Bible, there are scores who will justify war by quotations from the same book just as they did when Negro slavery divided this nation.

We are for war! We are for war to the end, but not the kind of wars that the bosses are interested in. Not the war for the profits of our masters. We are for the war of the workers against their exploiters until the latter together with their system are wiped off the face of this long suffering earth. We are for a more and more militant war of the classes, with us using every weapon which is now turned against us by the rulers and their servants.

We cannot hope to sway the imperialists by pacific appeals. The only inroads that we can make on them in that direction is to agitate and propagate among their armed forces which are to a great extent made up of young workers. We must get in touch with young workers in the armies, navies and marine corps of American capitalism. From within we must and for the rank and file of the recruit against the overbearing officers, for better conditions of food and rest and work, for increase in pay and for political rights which are now denied to them. Our aim must be to achieve the accomplishments of the French and German Young Communist League which have their members in the army formed into military nuclei which are at the same time the nuclei of the workers' army of the future.

If war should come between this country and any other we shall not take the attitude of the old Y. P. S. L., that is, of refusing to register. On the contrary, we shall enter the army with the avowed purpose of turning the imperialist war into the war of the workers against the profit-greedy bosses who have turned them into murder machines.

That is the only real way to end war. The workers' war against the capitalists' wars, is our slogan.

In this anti-militarist week being conducted by the Communist movement of the world, let all the workers, young and old, rally to the red standards for the final struggle against capitalism.

Down with capitalism and imperialist wars!  
On to the labor control of the militia and army and navy!

On with the war of labor against capitalism!  
Long live International Communism and the Soviet Republic of the World!

## The Congress of the Y. C. I.

**A**S this is being written the congress of the Young Communist International, following directly after that of the Communist International, has come to an end. The huge gathering of the leaders of the revolutionary young workers of every part of the world has finished the tasks before it and left the rest to the

hundreds of thousands who have rallied to its standards.

An international young communist congress sets itself a number of tasks. As the leading body, of the youth movement, it discusses the problems of the international and of the various national leagues, in the light of the new developments in the capitalist world, in Soviet Russia, in the ranks of international communism with a keen view of the experiences gained in the work and activities of the time since the last congress.

The great problem before the young communist movement in every capitalist country today is the winning over of the mass of the young workers to its ranks. In order to do this, the young communist leagues are slowly assuming the leadership of the young workers all over the world. How is this done? The leadership of any mass of people can only be secured by standing for and fighting for their elementary needs. The masses of the young workers will eventually follow and join with the organized section of the youthful proletariat which fights for its interests. The elementary needs of the young workers all over the world today, with the exception of Soviet Russia, are the fight against capitalist exploitation in the industries and the struggle against the danger of war which swallows the lives of the youth wholesale. On this basis the Young Communist International and its national sections have taken their fundamental stand.

The Young Communist Leagues of Europe, especially, have been intensely active in fighting against the danger of new imperialist slaughters. When war threatened as a result of the French occupation of the Ruhr Valley, the German and French youth organizations began a widespread propaganda among the troops of both nations against the greed of the steel gang in France, who were back of the entire move. In other instance, the same action was taken and not without terrible sacrifices being made by our fellow workers for the cause of the proletarian revolution.

The leagues have also become more and more active in furthering the economic demands of the Young Communist International, thru the building up of a network of shop nuclei. The German, Swedish, Czechoslovakian and French leagues have been most successful in this attempt. The Russian league has been on a nucleus basis ever since its inception.

The executive committee of the youth international has many times in the last year attempted to bring about a united front of the communist and socialist youth against the increasing boldness of the capitalist class in oppressing the youth. However, the socialist youth, under the close watch of their papas in the yellow ranks of the resurrected Second International, declined to strengthen the forces of the working class youth in this manner. It is gratifying to note that the socialist movement among the youth is losing strength even more rapidly than among the adults, with a noticeable gain for the communist organizations all over the world. In this country the socialist youth organization exists on paper, receiving occasional hypodermic injections from the yellow socialist bureaucrats of the needle trades internationals.

The congress this year has, as always, taken up the various leagues and discussed their work and tasks thoroughly. None has escaped criticism—but a criticism which is made for the sole purpose of correcting the line of work where it has strayed from the communist point of view. The Young Workers League, fraternally affiliated to the Young Communist International, has its delegates to this fifth congress of the red youth of the world. When they return their reports will be avidly listened to and read in our press.

We are proud to emblazon on our banners: The Young Workers League of America American section of the Young Communist International. We are that in spirit and action.

## On Successful Murder

**T**HERE is only one way in which you can become a successful murderer—that is, to get away with it—and that is by being rich. If you want to murder anyone and you happen to be only a poor duf, with no money, no influence, then you will hang or be electrocuted just as sure as fate.

For example:  
The yellow, sensational press all over the country is now filled with the morbid details of the murder of young Robert Franks by Nathan Leopold, Jr., and Richard Loeb, all three of them the sons of millionaire parents. When they were arrested they were not given the "goldfish" by the police. They were not beaten up, or mistreated in any other way. They got columns and columns of write ups, their features smear the pages of the papers and the stenographic evidence of the case is daily reprinted.

Everyone is pretty well aware that neither of the young men will hang. There is too much money behind them. Remember Harry K. Thaw who killed the architect, White—and got away with it. Remember the millionaire son-in-law of Edward K. Statesbury, of the House of Morgan, who killed Dorothy King, and got away with it. The baking king, Ward, who killed Clarence Peters, the poor sailor, is free today.

The two Chicago gentlemen who killed Robert Franks are the sons of millionaires. They wanted an additional kick out of life. They had nothing else to do. Far was it from them to go to work, of course, since that is done only by the slaves of their parents. For Albert Loeb is the vice-president of Sears, Roebuck & Co., notorious for its slave-driving among its young employees, who are only a few years younger than the murderers; and Leopold, Sr., is the head of a paper box company in Morris, Ill., which employs scores of children who sweat their young lives away in order that Nate Leopold may find spare time to study perversion and kill lads for excitement.

The young slaves can have the satisfaction of knowing that it is their toil which is providing these degenerates with the means of perverted enjoyments. And while they watch the process of the trial which will not result in the hanging of the two defendants they can have the additional pleasure of knowing that their lives are a slow process of torture while they pile up profits for Sears, Roebuck & Co. and the Leopold plant in Morris, Ill.

must arm for the struggle. The experiences of the last war were altogether too bitter to permit them to forget.

It is the young generation that has participated in the war to the greatest extent and has thereby suffered the greatest loss. Official German statistics state that young men between the years of 19 and 25 suffered 44 per cent of the entire losses of human life in that slaughter; while in France the classes of 1913, 1914, 1915 have been completely annihilated. In England the system of compulsory military service brought the entire youth to extinction. And in Belgium, owing to the fact that no one above 30 years of age was called to arms, the entire burden of military service was thrown

upon a small section of young workers.

Aside from the terrible losses that the proletarian youth has suffered on the firing line itself, one must also reckon the sufferings of the working youth of still lower ages that had not as yet been mobilized. In the name of national defense the protection of the youth was thrown overboard. Real young people, in fact children, had to enter industry to replace those called into slaughter service, and had to work for the longest number of hours.

The immense increase of epidemics (tuberculosis, etc.), among the working youth exploited during the war years is clear proof of the terrible

# The London Conference Leads to War

By ALEXANDER BITTELMEYER

**A**T this writing they are still deadlocked. They may continue in this fashion for another week or two, and then break up. They cannot very well agree because there is too much at stake. Even a makeshift arrangement is something that the London Conference will hardly be able to produce.

It isn't the German Loan.  
Reading capitalist news and interpretations of the London Conference only confuses one's mind. According to them the main reason for the deadlock is to be found in the unwillingness of inability of the French Government to accede to the so-called security demands of the English and American bankers, which is true, in a measure. But the explanation touches the surface of the matter.

It is true that the French government, in line with the interests of the French heavy industrialists, wouldn't relinquish the right of the Commission on Reparations to be the sole judge and executor in the matter of imposing sanctions upon Germany in case of the latter's default. It is also true that the English and American bankers are opposed to the position of France in this matter, their main argument being that the prospectus investors will not readily come forward with their money for the proposed 200 million dollar loan for Germany as long as the French government through its control of the Reparations Commission remains the sole judge in the matter of sanctions. All this is perfectly true, because these are the outward manifestations of the conflict that is at present taking place at the London Conference. However, what we should concern ourselves mostly with is not so much the outward signs as the inward causes which brings us to the old issue of—  
**Who Shall Dominate Europe?**

For this there are three great pretenders: France, England and America. The capitalists of these three countries are being driven by the logic of the economic situation and by the force of mutual antagonisms and

jealousies, to seize control over the most important sections of Europe. Germany, because of its coal and iron resources in the Ruhr and because of its comparative helplessness, offers at present the shortest and most effective way for securing domination over Europe. Germany has therefore become the chief stake in the imperialist game of the great powers.

France has made two attempts to secure for herself the coal and iron riches of the Ruhr basin. One was at the close of the great slaughter when the infamous treaty of Versailles was written. Clemenceau had then tried to annex to France all of the industrial Rhineland. In this he failed, because the capitalists of England and America wouldn't stand for it.

But French imperialism was not ready to give up so readily one of its most cherished dreams. Consequently another attempt was made, the famous march into the Ruhr initiated by Poincaré. The original purpose of the invasion was probably the complete annexation of the province to France, or, failing in this, to secure for French capital such a measure of control over the industries of the Ruhr as to make the latter practically French possessions. The combined opposition of the capitalists of Germany, England and America prevented France for the second time from realizing its ambitions. Then French imperialism began evolving a scheme based on the idea that the Ruhr industries be controlled jointly by the heavy industrialists of Germany and France. In other words, French imperialism was getting ready to compromise with its German brethren on the division of spoils in the Ruhr basin. The industrialists of Germany were quite willing. Barring a few differences that were yet to be settled, big capital of France and Germany was about to join hands in the battle for the conquest of Europe.

Then something happened. American imperialism jointly with the English stepped into the affair and said: No. It shall not be. This categorical No was delivered through the so-called

Experts' Report commonly known in America as the Dawes plan. And in order to touch French imperialism to the quick, American and English bankers fooled around for a little while with the French franc chasing it down almost to the same value as the German mark in its critical days.

French imperialism took the hint intelligently. It acquiesced in the Dawes plan (theoretically, at least), and expressed a willingness to negotiate. The result was the London Conference.

**What Are They Negotiating About?**  
The concrete question is this: Who shall control the coal and iron industries of the Ruhr basin? To this question the replies are as follows: France—the heavy industrialists of France and Germany. America and England. All of us, meaning by this that in such a joint control America would come first, England second, France third, and Germany fourth. Or, if France remains obstinate, Germany might come third and France last.

**The Co-Relation of Forces.**  
In this imperialistic battle, which is a continuation of the great slaughter by means of diplomacy and economic pressure and which is preparing the ground for a new and still bloodier struggle, the forces of the combatants are co-related about as follows:

In France: Heavy industrialists are in its army, and exclusively Franco-German control, the petty-bourgeoisie and the labor aristocracy are distrustful of it. The latter are more inclined toward accepting the Dawes plan.

In Germany the situation is about the same.

In England the entire capitalist class (big, middle and small) and the labor aristocracy are opposed to Franco-German control and in favor of the Dawes plan.

In America, big capital is naturally in favor of the Dawes plan and opposed to the French scheme. Middle and small capital as well as the labor aristocracy have not yet made up their minds on the proposition, the chances being that these groups will

clarify war against Japan in a short time on the hollow pretext that some citizen was ill-treated or that the flag was insulted. What is to prevent the United States from getting into a war with England, another of our late allies, ostensibly over some innocent looking affair, but in reality because the rivalry between these two powers counts with the passing of each day, because the investments of American capitalists come into daily conflict with the investments of British capital in such countries as Brazil, Argentina, Chile, other South American countries; in Canada, in Persia and other parts of the world.

There is only one force capable of stopping the onward rush of the approaching world war. That force is a revolutionary working class.

The revolutionary working class is that working class which will realize that the only way of stopping war is by the complete overthrow of the capitalist system which produces it regularly. The Russian workers and peasants knew this, felt it, and they overthrew both Czarism and the socialist supporters of capitalism, thus bringing the world war to a close. It was they who brought Russia out of the world slaughter, and later broke the backbone of German imperialism.

The Communists of the world are organized to fight the real war to end all wars, the war against capitalism. Pacifism makes a pretence at being opposed to imperialist wars, but in reality the first to go along when war is declared. It stands for class peace, peace between the workers and their exploiters which is not peace but slavery. As against the wars of the imperialist profiteers in which the workers sacrifice their lives, the Communists advocate the workers' war against the bosses.

Slowly, painfully, the workers are learning that it is sometimes wise to make a leap out of the book of capitalist tactics. Only good chaff and fools turn the other cheek when he is slapped. The fighting miners of West Virginia learned the lesson of the struggle against oppression when they took up their rifles and went gunning for the thugs of the coal operators. The miners of Herrin, Ill., learned a similar instructive lesson. The same lesson will have to be learned by every single worker in the United States as well as elsewhere.

To the war the capitalists will oppose the war of the proletarian revolution. If war should come, our only alternative will be to turn the energy, blood, sacrifice of the fighting soldier, workers into a war against their oppressors, the scheming plutocrats who refuse to yield their position and make way for a sane social order.

At the present time, the armies of capitalism are made up of misguided young workers. It is our duty to point out to these young workers their real place in the make-up of capi-

eventually be brought into line by big capital in favor of the Dawes plan.

Thus we see that the forces lined up in favor of the Dawes plan, considering the matter internationally, are much more powerful than are those favoring the idea of Franco-German control. If it comes to a show-down, which means war, the former are sure to win. But the international bourgeoisie does not dare yet to resort to the means of arms. The memories of the last slaughter are still fresh in the minds of the masses. However, there is no other way of solving the problems of the London Conference except by war, that is, from the capitalist point of view, or else, by a proletarian revolution from the point of view of the working class.

## IMPROPAGANDA

Senator Moses, of New Hampshire, is going into Wisconsin to give battle to LaFollette. He will organize and make speeches and the papers will give space to Moses and his bull rushes.

## WHAT HOSPITAL IS HE IN, BRICK?

I'm against war. I abhor fighting, on principle and in practice—but that guy that slandered the Young Workers League won't do it again! BRICK LAYER.

## HAVE A CIGAR, LADY!

I am strong against war. But I believe in conscription. Of all the Young Workers. To hand in a subscription. RED'S WIFE.

**SMALL QUESTIONS IN SMALL TYPE**  
Is it due to the large percentage of them that Washington is called the seat of the Government?

## CURRENT FICTION

(The Week's Best Smeller, Entitled: "My, What An Odor!")

The Republican party reaffirms its stand for agreement among the nations to prevent war and preserve peace. As an important step in this direction we endorse the permanent court of international justice and favor the adherence of the United States to the tribunal recommended by President Coolidge.—Republican Platform.

Get in the Union in Your Trade!

The politician who before election is so anxious to "serve the people" usually does afterwards, on a plate to Capital.

## CONTINUOUSLY AND ALL OVER

I don't like to repeat it—really. But no less an upright and honorable gentleman than Clarence True Wilson, corresponding secretary of the board of temperance and public morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, says this about LaFollette:

"The only party and the only wet candidate running is Robert M. LaFollette. He has been continuously wet."

OFFICE BEANE.

**We can assure those who join the LaFollette Clubs that they will be taken in.**

## ADVERTISEMENT

President Coolidge will make his speech of acceptance on August 14. Watch for our "Week's Best Smeller." Bundle orders solicited.

"Join the navy and see the world!" Join the Young Workers League and own the world!

WALT CARMON-IMPROPAGANDIST

talist society. We, the young Communists, set ourselves the goal of gaining these young workers for the cause of the revolutionary working class, as they were won in Russia, as they are being won in France and other countries.

On the tenth anniversary of the beginning of the world's greatest and most horrible murder feast, we proclaim the Communist watchword and call upon the workers to join us and fight against the oncoming slaughters of their class for the profits of their boss:

War Against War!  
The proletarian revolution against imperialist wars!

agitational foundation among the masses of the youth, to prepare them for their work within the army.

At the present moment, ten years following the declaration of war among the imperialist powers, the powerful idea of Lenin on revolutionary anti-militarist work must guide our entire activity.

(Translated by Eugene Bechtold.)

There is dignity in honest labor, but there is none in wage slavery. Dignity and slavery do not go well together.

The truth never hurts anything but a lie.

A contented wage slave and an oyster are first cousins.

Every day something is being done, that couldn't be done.

# The Working Class Youth and Imperialist War

By JACQUES DORIOT  
Secretary, Young Communist League of France and Member, French House of Deputies

**T**EN years have passed since the declaration of war. That period, however, has not weakened the contradictions inherent in imperialism, but, on the contrary, made them stand out more acutely than ever before. The peace of Versailles, which has redivided the world, has thrown one imperialist power against the other in the most violent opposition, and they are now again about to fight insanely against one another.

The proletarian youth must understand this dangerous situation and

misery that they endured.

**The Betrayal.**

During the war the socialist youth organizations followed the same traitorous conduct as was exemplified by their party leaders. They unreservedly joined the ranks of the imperialists and became their best recruiting officers. In studying the consequences of the war on the youth one clearly sees that the treachery of the socialist youth organizations is probably greater and more criminal than that of the socialist parties.

Already in the year 1915 there was developed within the body of the Youth International a group of comrades, who rebelled against the treachery of the leaders and formed the kernel around which there later as-

sembled the broad masses of the youth, and finally formed the revolutionary youth international.

Their first task consisted in attacking the socialist parties and to fight against militarism. They were quite successful. The Young Communist International organized systematically in the Ruhr region at the beginning of its occupation, for revolutionary agitation and propaganda among the soldiery. Fraternization was our slogan. The strenuous efforts of the French and German young Communists were crowned with success. In numerous sections of the occupied regions the soldiers fraternized with the German proletariat. The commanding staffs, because of this ever-growing movement, were compelled to concen-

trate their troops and to enforce strict police measures. Arrests occurred on a mass scale. Scores of workers and soldiers were convicted and sentenced to heavy punishments, some to ten, others to five years in prison.

These countermeasures of the capitalists and militarists are plain proof that the Communist propaganda was a real danger to the French army. The disorganization of the French army of occupation is today no longer a Utopia, but a living reality.

The propaganda work in the Ruhr region should serve as the classical example of how Communist work against war should be carried on. On the day when all parties will carry on a lively agitation among the soldiery and will organize themselves within the regiments themselves, will capitalism have lost its power to use the troops for its purposes? This important task must be based upon a wide